

Important Notice:

June 1, 2011

Effective July 1, 2011 Certified Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) Testing will be required as defined in the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to include State Amendments. Prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy for any new One and Two Family Dwellings, **permitted on or after July 1, 2011**, the fully completed compliance certification form will be required to be on file with the Building Department. This is in addition to the one that is required to be permanently attached to the electrical distribution panel. The required form will soon be available on the Community Development web page under the building permit portion of the permits and applications tab. The following individuals are allowed to test and verify:

A certified Home Energy Rating Systems (HERS) rater

A certified Home Performance contractor with Energy Star

A Building Performance Institute (BPI) Analyst

An individual that has successfully completed a certified DET verifier course that is approved by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

If the scope of an addition, alteration, renovation or repairs to an existing residential building or building system requires DET testing, as outlined by the code, verification may also be required. Cobb County does not currently conduct residential plan review and therefore relies on the information provided to the permitting office by the permit applicant. Therefore it may be determined by the inspector, after work has begun, that the testing and verification is required. It is recommended that the scope and requirements are strictly reviewed by the owner and the applicant, prior to permitting, to determine if the testing and verification is required.

In conjunction with and limited to residential construction, including renovation and addition projects, Cobb County will be requiring an insulation inspection as well. This inspection must be requested after the framing inspection has passed and prior to any interior wall or ceiling covering being installed. As with the DET testing, the insulation inspection will only be required on residential permits obtained on or after July 1, 2011.

Where a residential building is classified as R-2, such as attached townhomes and condominiums, testing and verification of the building envelope will be required as outlined in section 402.4.2.2. (*DCA amendment*), which includes an exception allowing field verification in lieu of the envelope tightness testing that is required for One and Two Family Dwellings. If any of the required inspections, including the insulation inspection, are not conducted and passed by a County Inspector the other testing protocol listed in section 402.4.2.2 (*DCA amendment*) will be required. Duct Tightness testing is required to be tested and certified in the same manner as One & Two Family Dwellings.

As with any other adopted code, total compliance with the code is required by the owner and permit holder even if portions of the code are not verified to be compliant by a Cobb County inspector. Cobb County will also continue to require the Energy Code Affidavit that has been in place for several years.